

**General Assembly**

Distr.: Limited

7 June 2017

Original: English

**Special Committee on the Situation with regard
to the Implementation of the Declaration on the
Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries
and Peoples****Draft resolution submitted by the Chair****Question of sending visiting and special missions to Territories**

The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Having considered the question of sending visiting missions to Territories,

Recalling the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee requesting the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the United Nations by receiving visiting missions in the Territories under their administration,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of assessing the situation in those Territories and of ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the peoples thereof regarding their future status,

Conscious that United Nations visiting missions enhance the capacity of the United Nations to assist the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories in attaining the objectives set forth in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, in other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and in the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,¹

Recalling paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 71/122 of 6 December 2016, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that United Nations visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, where applicable, were an effective means of ascertaining the situation of the peoples of the Territories and requested the Special Committee to undertake at least one visiting mission a year,

¹ See General Assembly resolution 65/119.



Recalling with satisfaction the work of the Special Committee visiting mission to New Caledonia, which took place from 10 to 15 March 2014, and taking note of its report,²

Recalling the recent requests by the President of the Groupe Union calédonienne-Front de libération nationale kanak et socialiste et Nationalistes at the Congress of New Caledonia for a follow-up visiting mission by the Special Committee in order to build on the findings of the 2014 mission, and acknowledging the willingness of the administering Power to consider facilitating the conduct of the visiting mission,

Recalling also the request by the representative of Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente Polisario) in its capacity as representative of Western Sahara, for a visiting mission of the Special Committee to be conducted to the Territory,

Recalling further the two successful missions that were conducted to observe the referendums in Tokelau, in February 2006 and October 2007, at the invitation of New Zealand as the administering Power,³

Recalling the cooperation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as the administering Power, in having facilitated the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in April 2006 at the request of the territorial Government,⁴

1. *Stresses* the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to facilitate the full, speedy and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples with respect to those Territories, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization and the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;¹

2. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee, in collaboration with members of the Bureau, to develop, in a timely manner, a plan for conducting visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not yet done so to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by facilitating United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

4. *Requests* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee in exploring the possibility of undertaking visiting or special missions in furtherance of the decolonization mandate of the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee to continue to hold consultations with the administering Powers concerned and to report to the Committee on the results of those consultations.

² See A/AC.109/2014/20/Rev.1.

³ See A/AC.109/2006/20 and A/AC.109/2007/19.

⁴ See A/AC.109/2007/5.